

Older generation has sacrificed enough

We were embarrassed to read that Pres. Clinton has said that the older generation must learn to sacrifice as other generations have done. We knew that eventually someone would ferret out our dirty little secret. We have lived the "Life of Ri-

ley" all our lives and now we must pay the piper. During the Depression, we lived it up by dancing to the tune of "Brother, can you spare a dime?" Many could choose to dine at one of the countless soup kitchens, often joined by parents and siblings. Then came World War II, and our cup was really filled to overflowing. After cruising the beautiful waters near Hawaii and the Pacific, the club came to the U.S. Navy and seeing many fireworks, day and night, many of us got to see the "Great Fireworks" display provided by the Japanese on Dec. 7, 1941. We had a chance to bask on the beaches of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and Okinawa. We had the chance to visit the capitals of Europe and visit such scenic spots as Bastogne and Monte Cassino. One of the most exhilarating strolls was from Bataan to the famous Japanese prisons, laughingly referred to as death traps. The good people of Bataan were not enough to be on the beaches of Normandy for boating and swimming on that pleasant day in June 1944. Instead of asking "what can you do for your country," an indulgent government let us drift away our youth and travel through the hellish green jungles of Burma, New Guinea and the Solomons. Yes, it's all true. We are pampered and spoiled rotten. We never did learn what sacrifice meant. My generation is old, President Clinton. Please continue to punish us for our sins, we might learn the true meaning of "duty, honor and country" and love for our creator. (Editor's Note: This was forwarded to us. Source not identified.)

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The Elba Clipper

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 28

50 CENTS

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1997

1 SECTION, 14 PAGES

Major change for car tags in 1998

If an individual purchases or acquires a vehicle having a current and valid tag, the new owner is required to remove the tag and return it to the issuing official of his resident county. However, if the tag has expired, the new owner is not required to return the license plate to the issuing official.

There are two exceptions to the tag-follow-law in which certain distinctive tags or standard license plates will remain with the vehicle.

One is related to the transfer of ownership from a parent to a child of a service member playing Helping Schools, Collegiate, Environmental or Personalized tag.

The second involves the transfer of ownership to a surviving spouse of a vehicle. Note, however, that if a vehicle bears a distinctive license plate or a registration fee-exempt license plate, the current owner could not qualify, the tag must be turned in to the licensing office within 30 days of the date in which the spouse obtains ownership.

The new year, 1998, will ring in some major changes for tag offices across the state.

Alabama Legislative Act 96-746 requires that a vehicle tag remain with the current license plate owner when a vehicle is sold, beginning January 1, 1998.

According to William O. Gammill, Coffee County Probate Judge, this change in Alabama's registration law is very important one for all vehicle owners.

"No longer will motor vehicle tags remain with the vehicle following the sale or transfer of ownership," Judge Gammill stated. "Beginning January 1, 1998, the tag will be issued to the applicant or vehicle owner, not to the vehicle."

"This will be a major change for Alabamians who in the past have left the tag on a vehicle that was sold or traded," explains Judge Gammill.

"This legislation was enacted primarily to assist law enforcement personnel in providing accurate information on vehicle ownership."

"Further, this Act will protect the seller of used vehicles from false charges against them when the new owner intentionally delays changing the registration on the vehicle," he added.

"All tags with the exception of the vintage tag will remain with the current tag owner for use on any subsequent vehicle the individual may own, as long as the subsequent vehicle requires the same tag classification and fee as the previously owned vehicle," explained Judge Gammill.

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ONE KILLED TWO INJURED...On a cold rainy evening, two automobiles collided leaving one lady dead and two others seriously injured. The crash occurred at approximately 5:10 p.m. last Thursday evening on U. S. Highway 23 near Elba. The two drivers were taken to Elba General Hospital with serious injuries. The victim was identified as Frances Williams, 72, of Elba. Mrs. Williams and the driver and lone occupant of the other car (1994 Nissan) involved in the crash, Melissa Chrismann, 30, of Enterprise, were taken to a Dothan hospital where they remain. They are both listed as being in stable condition. All victims were taken to Elba General Hospital by units from Coffee County EMS and the Elba Rescue Squad. In the picture above, rescue personnel are working to free the occupants of the Lincoln. Assisting rescue efforts at the scene were units from the Elba Fire Department and Elba Police Department. The victim who died was transported to the Alabama State Troopers. Shorty later, at 7:20 p.m., another unrelated accident occurred on Smith Avenue in Elba. A 1991 Pontiac driven by Terry Wayne Sewell, 20, of Elba, collided with a pickup truck being driven by Coy D. Richardson, 59, of Elba. Sewell was taken to Elba General Hospital by the Elba Rescue Squad where he was treated and later released. Richardson was not hurt in the crash. The second accident was investigated by the Elba Police Department.

Elba school board approves borrowing money to complete ballfield complex

The Elba City School Board voted last Thursday evening (December 11th) at 5:45 p.m. to borrow \$100,000 to complete construction of the transportation facility, baseball/softball field complex and erosion control.

The board also heard a report from Pearce on the recent decision by the state department of education to postpone the class reduction standards for Alabama schools until August of 1998. The previous deadline set by the state superintendent of education had been January 1998.

After the board meeting, the board members left this short board meeting to join faculty members at Elba High School.

Elba police arrest burglar and robber

An Elba man has been arrested and charged with robbery and burglary.

According to Investigator John P. Senn, of the Elba Police Department, the burglar, identified as a man in his 20s, was a guest in the residence of a woman in Elba. The woman was sleeping when the burglar entered the residence and was discovered by the woman.

The burglar left the house, the owner of the home returned and the burglar was arrested.

Nathaniel Reed, 19, of 102 Carter Drive, Elba, AL, has been arrested and charged with robbery in the third degree and burglary in the third degree.

Reed is being held in the Elba County Jail without bond pending a hearing.

Investigator Senn stated that the incident remains under investigation by the Elba Police Department.

NOTICE

The City of Elba offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25 and 26, 1997, in observance of Christmas. Offices will again be open on Monday, January 1, 1998, in observance of New Year's Day. There will be standby crews on call for any emergency with water, electricity, streets or sewers. To report emergencies call the Elba Police Department at 897-2555.

The garbage collection for both holiday weeks is as follows: Monday - unchanged; Tuesday - unchanged; Wednesday and Thursday's routes will be picked up on Wednesday; and Friday - unchanged.

EARLY DEADLINE

Next week, the week of Christmas, the Elba Clipper will be printing a day early. Therefore, ALL DEADLINES must, by necessity, be a day early.

You are encouraged to submit all news and advertising no later than noon on Monday, December 22nd.

EARLY DEADLINE

It is a state requirement that all persons who sell news media must have a substitute teacher's certificate.

At the present time, the county system has not required a person to have the certificate prior to being hired as an aide; however, they were required to have a high school diploma and to obtain a certificate to be used in the transportation of students to any activity.

Several burglaries which have occurred in rural parts of Coffee County has prompted the sheriff's department to publicize the need for the public to be aware of the potential for home invasion.

Most of the burglaries have taken place in or around the Goodman Community area.

Sheriff Moates asks that anyone who might have information concerning these burglaries should call the sheriff's department at (334) 894-8945.

The sheriff's department reminds all citizens that this is the season to take special precautions to help insure that they do not become victims of a crime.

The following are some helpful tips for the rural citizens of Coffee County to help make the holidays a happy time. They are:

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Bad weather and automobile wrecks seem to go together. During the first part of the week last week we were reading about the chain reaction wrecks in California, caused by solid banks of fog. Then it came home to Coffee County, when the day-long rains hit. Elba police, rescue and volunteer firemen were running from one disaster (or near disaster) to another in the early hours of Thursday night. There was one fatality locally, but there could have been more. All of us need to be keenly aware of how fast these things can develop. Often, there is nothing an individual can do to avoid such a disaster, but sometimes alertness can prevent or minimize such occurrences. Join us in trying to do better... every day.

If you haven't written the White House with a suggested name for President Clinton's new puppy, don't complain if they name him something common like Fido, or something exotic or even something weird and crazy like... "GreatestPresidentEver." Anyway the dog is a three month old Lab and Bill "just loves him."

Last week we had a letter to the editor from a writer (Baptist) upset that we Methodists were not joining in the loud political uproar over the prayer in the schools issue. Actually, information we are getting is that the Baptists themselves are split on how to react to this matter. We have no problem with that either... it shows people are thinking for themselves. Personally, no judge is going to stop us from praying whenever we want to do so, and we hope that spills over to our children. Now, as to the issue of organized prayer in public schools led by teachers, we ask, "How would this good Baptist (or Methodist, Church of Christ, Seven Day Adventists, etc.) react if the teacher happened to be of one of the Far East religions you don't like or maybe don't understand (or possibly one of the doomsday cults) and proceeded to teach that to your six year old child?" Look deeply, without the heated emotions we don't show enough of these on Sundays, and it appears the judge is just protecting us (and those who follow the other religions) from just such a thing happening. These young minds don't need to be getting undue influence from others at a time when they are just forming their lifetime ideals and ideas. Follow the lead of the children in Paducah, KY and allow the students to have their own volunteer prayer study groups and this will make a better world for all to live in! Then if a group from families who follow some other religion want to do the same, let them... our beliefs are strong enough that they are not going to confuse our thinking and hopefully so are yours.

Elba finally held the Christmas Festival last Saturday and yes it rained! It was also cold and windy, but these things are normal during Elba's days of celebrating.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT



United States Senator Richard Shelby REPORTS TO ALABAMA



MAKING THE INTERNET SAFE FOR KIDS

The Internet may well be one of the most innovative teaching tools of this century. Currently, more than 400 schools in Alabama are taking advantage of the fact that parents and children are unaware of the potential danger, and are thus unprepared to deal with that danger.

Many teachers have found ways to incorporate lessons on mathematics, social studies and literature with the tools and resources found on the Internet. Some schools, like Trace Crossings Elementary School in Hoover, even have their own Internet web pages where teachers post homework assignments, and other relevant learning. Educators are hopeful that such practices will lead to better communication with parents, and in turn better educated children. Essentially, parents can log onto the school website to see the day's homework assignments, or to help a sick child make up school work missed during illness. The potential uses and benefits of this important tool are limitless.

But with any new technology, there are sure to be some dangers. News stories about pedophiles, child pornographers, and child abductors using the web to prey on children

have become more and more prevalent as the technology has become more available. Many of these would-abductors are simply taking advantage of the fact that parents and children are unaware of the potential danger, and are thus unprepared to deal with that danger.

For many years, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has been tirelessly working to help ensure that our nation's children are safe. They have developed the latest in age-enhanced photography used to identify children who have been missing for long periods of time, as well as a 24-hour toll-free hotline used for reporting tips on missing or endangered children. The Center, which serves as the nation's preeminent clearing house for information about missing and exploited children, is now using its unmatched expertise to missing children's issues to address the technology explosion on the World Wide Web as well. They not only use the Web as a resource through which to provide important information about how to protect children, but they have begun the important task of educating children, parents and teachers about online dangers

and how they can be avoided.

Recently, I joined my friend Erin Allen, who is the President of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, at an online elementary school in Alabama. There, we gave students mouspads that carry the following "Rules for Online Safety": Never give out or send personal information (photos, addresses, telephone numbers or location of my school) without my parents' permission. If I come across or see something online that makes me feel uncomfortable, I'll tell my parents or teacher and I will not respond to this kind of message. I'll never agree to get together with someone I meet online without my parents' prior knowledge and consent."

Although simple, these rules provide a wealth of information that when used can close the door on sexual predators who harass and victimize children online.

Ultimately, we hope to provide the "Online Safety Mousepads" to all online schools in Alabama and across the nation. With the help of concerned teachers and parents, we can ensure that the Internet remains an essential teaching tool that is safe for all children.

DEADLINE FOR
CHURCH NEWS
IS MONDAY!!!!

ELBA POLICE REPORT

DECEMBER 8 Thru DECEMBER 14, 1997

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12 - Alarm at a residence on N. Claxton Ave. (5:25 a.m.); River stage - 9.42 feet (6:14 a.m.); Minor wreck reported on Al Hwy. 166 (3:45 p.m.); Alarm at the Movie Gallery (10:41 p.m.).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 - River stage - 9.76 feet (6:00 a.m.); Alarm at Elba High School (5:48 p.m.); Disturbance (fight) reported on Riverview Dr. (6:04 p.m.).

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 - River stage - 9.50 feet (6:54 a.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Al Hwy. 141 (3:24 p.m.); Disturbance (fight) reported on Adkinson St. (10:13 p.m.).

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8 - River stage - 8.51 feet (6:23 a.m.); Wreck (vehicle vs deer) Al Hwy. 875 (7:46 p.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10 - Alarm at the Jewel Box (2:40 a.m.); River stage - 8.70 (6:10 a.m.); Routine activity.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11 - River stage - 8.97 feet (6:00 a.m.); Wreck reported on U. S. Hwy. 84E (5:11 p.m.); EMS, rescue, and fire department dispatched to wreck on U. S. Hwy 84E (5:15 p.m.); Fire and fire department dispatched to wreck on U. S. Hwy. 8E (5:52 p.m.); Alarm at Elba High School (5:01 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9 - River stage - 8.51 feet (6:23 a.m.); Wreck (vehicle vs deer) Al Hwy. 875 (7:46 p.m.); Routine activity.

Wednesday, DECEMBER 10 - Alarm at the Jewel Box (2:40 a.m.); River stage - 8.70 (6:10 a.m.); Routine activity.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11 - River stage - 8.97 feet (6:00 a.m.); Wreck reported on U. S. Hwy. 84E (5:11 p.m.); EMS, rescue, and fire department dispatched to wreck on U. S. Hwy 84E (5:15 p.m.); Fire and fire department dispatched to wreck on U. S. Hwy. 8E (5:52 p.m.); Alarm at Elba High School (5:01 p.m.).

FRIE, DECEMBER 12 - River stage - 8.97 feet (6:00 a.m.); Wreck reported on U. S. Hwy. 84E (5:11 p.m.); EMS, rescue, and fire department dispatched to wreck on U. S. Hwy 84E (5:15 p.m.); Fire and fire department dispatched to wreck on U. S. Hwy. 8E (5:52 p.m.); Alarm at Elba High School (5:01 p.m.).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 - River stage - 9.76 feet (6:00 a.m.); Alarm at Elba High School (5:48 p.m.); Disturbance (fight) reported on Riverview Dr. (6:04 p.m.).

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 - River stage - 9.50 feet (6:54 a.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Al Hwy. 141 (3:24 p.m.); Disturbance (fight) reported on Adkinson St. (10:13 p.m.).

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Socials Notes

Long-Wise united in marriage

Miss Whitney Lacey Wise and Victor Markland Long were united in marriage June 24, 1997, at the Sonoma Mission Inn and Spa in Sonoma, Calif. The Rev. Kim Thompson officiated at the afternoon ceremony.

Mrs. Long is the daughter of Shirley Morgan, Enterprise, and formerly of Elba, and the late James Joseph Wise Jr.

The groom's parents are John Long of Ormond Beach, Fla., and Ron Long of St. Simons Island, Ga.

The bride wore a candlelight sleeveless floor-length silk gown with a lace-encrusted silk bodice accented with hand-sewn pearls. A silk shawl complemented the gown. She wore a strand of pearls with matching bracelet and pearl-and-diamond earrings, gifts from the groom.

She carried a bridal bouquet of white roses, white Casablanca lilies and snapdragons.

After a honeymoon along the coast, the bride and groom were honored on July 26 with a garden reception at the lovely marsh-front home of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Wainwright on St. Simons Island.

The reception was held on the grounds of the home and arrows were pointed under whistlers. The flower-strewn tents were adorned with sparkling white lights suspended from grapevine balls.

Guest tables were covered in multi-layers of tulle with hand-sewn flowers scattered underneath each table. The tables held massive arrangements of Bahama lilies, Queen Anne's Lace, purple double Lizzies, yellow roses, hydrangeas, and yellow apples interspersed with variegated wide-edged ribbon.

The cocktail buffet was served to the approximately 200 guests attending the delightful affair. A variety of musical selections was provided by Bill Roberts and Company during the evening.

The three-tiered bride's cake, which rested on the dining table inside the home, was a chocolate pound cake with cream cheese frosting and raspberries between each layer. Sugar-frosted pink and ivory rose petals decorated the cake.

Pre-nuptial parties included an Indian-style hosted by Misses Amelia Besdole, Karen Ellis, Krysti Owens, Mrs. Mandy Jefcoat and Mrs. Monica



Azalea Garden Club holds December meeting

The Azalea Garden Club met Wednesday, December 16th, at the home of Carolyn Brunson, with Rhonda Brunson as hostess. Members present were: Betty Cox, Judy Eastburn, Martha Girdner, Evelyn Holliman, Carol Jackson, Kathryn Kelly, Betty Rogers, Betty Vanhorn and Annie Laula Wright. Year of the month was awarded to Myrna and Wendell Cotton, 1777 Smith Ave.

Posters for the Woodsey Owl contest were judged and the winners were: Megan Sullivan, 1st grade; Tiffany Bryan, 2nd grade; Haley Stinson, 3rd grade; Lindsey Lawford, 5th grade. Each winner received \$10.

Magnolia Home & Garden Club decorates Nursing Home Christmas tree

The Magnolia Home and Garden Club began the Christmas season in the festive fellowship hall of the Elba United Methodist Church.

After refreshments were served by Sybil and Lurleen Martin, hostesses, a brief business session took place, with Betty Hamm, president, presiding.

The Projects Committee expressed thanks to June Thompson, Erma Ware and Ann Miles for selecting and placing five panty raffle prizes for the Farm-City banquet held on Nov. 20.

Mavis Davis reported that four pinsettias had been placed by the club on the nurses' stations at the Elba Nursing Home.

After the business session, all members proceeded to the Elba Nursing Home to decorate the Christmas tree in the main dining room. They were greeted by the residents who were anxiously waiting for the holiday lights to shine.

For the second year, the



THE ELBA STUDY CLUB met Wednesday, Dec. 10, for the annual Christmas party and program. Shown are Mary Jared, Noni Cooper, Jo Hudson, guest Nell Gilmer, Myrtle Sellers, and Doris Taylor. Attending but not pictured were Eleanor Senn and Charlotte Hobson.

Mr. & Mrs. Edgar to celebrate 56th anniversary

Rev. and Mrs. J.L. Edgar will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary on Dec. 24.

Their Christmas Eve elopement marked the beginning of their family of two daughters — Mrs. Erma and Mrs. Gloria home on Christmas night.

Bryant of Troy — six grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

The Edgars traditionally combine their anniversary and holiday celebrations in a family gathering at their Simmons of Elba, and Mrs. Gloria home on Christmas night.

As we sing this beautiful carol, do we really listen to what the words are saying? I trust that you believe that the Lord has come. After all, that is what we are celebrating — the birth of Jesus Christ. If we know that He has come, then we can truly have joy in our hearts.

Then, with joy in our hearts, we should receive Christ as King. The birth of Jesus Christ is the Lord of our lives! As we remember the birth of Jesus Christ as a little babe in a manger in Bethlehem we should remember that He grew to be a man — that He set us an example that we could follow . . . and expressed His love for us when He went to the Cross. We should not leave Him in the manger nor upon the Cross. For He lives today in the hearts of all who have received Him as Lord and made room for Him in their lives.

Devotional by First African Baptist, Antioch, Jordan Grove, and Morning Star. First African Baptist Church Choir will render music. Welcome by Bro. Henry Baugh, sermon by Rev. Paul Lee, pastor of First African Baptist Church, Florida.

Evangelist will be Dr. P. Braziel, Sunday School on Dec. 28 will be held at 10 a.m., morning worship at 11.

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Power Of * *Petition* *

by Marsha Martin
Drink prices were raised to \$.75 in October. This was done to help pay for several unexpected expenses in the school budget. Students at EHS were outraged. Petitions were distributed around school. The petitions stated that they would not buy drinks until prices were lowered. Just two weeks ago, drink prices were dropped to \$.60. The decrease in price of the drinks proves that students do have a voice and this voice is able to be heard if they will only speak out.

Giving Thanks

Elba Elementary School shares its abundance with others. Each year the Elba Elementary School Student Council sponsors a canned food drive to help provide a good Thanksgiving to those who may not have one. This year over 400 canned and boxed food items were turned in at Elba Elementary School.

Mrs. Ann Adams is pictured accepting the canned items on behalf of the Christian Mission.

The administrative staff and student council sponsors encourage activities and programs that are awareness and encourage the students to help find solutions to needs in our city. EES students are learning to cheerfully share with those less fortunate. It is in sharing with others out of their own bounty that students truly celebrate the meaning of Thanksgiving.

SALUTE

Support The ELBA Tigers

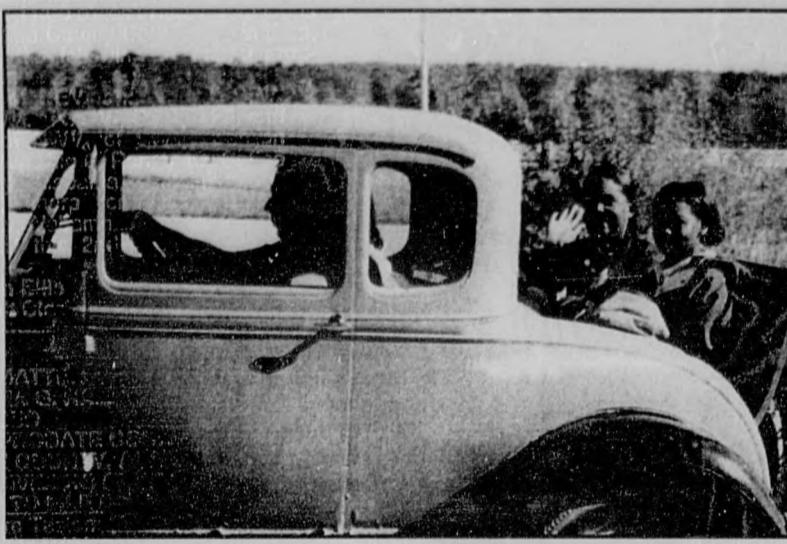
Tiger Tales



ANNA
HEAD
Editor

ELIZABETH
STRONG
Assistant Editor

Class Drives Model A's



Model A's

Salute

Support

The

ELBA

Tigers

Last week Mr. Carlie's 5th Period U.S. History class drove Model A cars after they had completed their history assignment. The class was divided up into three groups: 20's, 40's, and 60's. All the students said they enjoyed driving the Model A cars and getting to see how it was back in the olden days!

More Letters To Santa...

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good girl this year, so could you please bring me a Toyota 4-Runner, a fence for my yard, a Rottweiler, and lots of clothes. And please give all the need children lots of toys!

Love,
Cassie Crittenden

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Love,
Leigh Kelley

NEW HOUSE FOR SALE



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BE
PREPARED
PLAN
AHEAD

Seniors' Letters To Santa Claus

Dear Santa,
I have a list for Christmas is for all of my friends and family to have a safe holiday season and a happy New Year. I also wish that my boyfriend, Gary Davis, could come home for Christmas. That's almost impossible, but Santa, if you can be my boyfriend, I would like to send him a letter. (And some items for my car)

Thanks,
Tawanna Rodgers

Dear Santa,
I would like some rims for my car and a new car. Some money and more money and some clothes, and some new shoes.

Thank you,
Michael

Dear Santa,
As you already know, I've been a really good girl this year. I'm doing well in school, therefore I deserve all of the following:

I would like to have love, joy, peace, and happiness for everyone near, and for I would also like to receive at least \$300 to buy clothes, a pair of boots (OKNY) to buy a car, and some gold earings, a collection, my boyfriend, Gary Davis, and my dog, and my son, Garrett Bowtell.

Garrett Bowtell

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a new Yukon GT Blazer full of gas. Also, I'd like a CD player for my new Blazer and Thermobrakes. I'd like to wish all the seniors a great year.

Randy Dodd

LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,
Please give me a willing heart to serve my God and Creator, and a car would be nice, too.

Robert McKinley

Dear Santa,
I really want something. I want besides a happy Christmas. During the last few days, if I see something I want, believe me - I'll let you know! Oh! you can be gathering a surprise amount of money for me! Thanks a bundle!

LaDon "L-Dog" Daniels

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a new Yamaha GT Blazer full of gas. Also, I'd like a CD player for my new Blazer and Thermobrakes. I'd like to wish all the seniors a great year.

Randy Dodd

LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,
I have a short list this year (pretty unusual, I know). I would like a scholarship to the State, a car for my car, and the entire Ivy & Hancock Collection. And if you wanted to throw in some clothes, that would be O.K. too!

Thanks!
Kathy Ivadu

Dear Santa,
Since I have been such a good girl this year, I would like to have a black Lamborghini, some clothes, some jewelry, and a Trix in the car. I would like to have my own car.

Love, Andrea Carnley

Dear Santa,
I just want my dad to wake me up on Christmas morning again like he did last year.

Heather DuBose

Dear Santa,
This is what I want for Christmas this year. I want a very nice car. Please bring me good grades, a Sony PlayStation, and three extra controllers, Nascar 98, Grand Prix 98, 2 controllers for N64, Top Gear Rally, Golden Eye, Resident Evil II, NBA Hangtime.

Adrian Dubisar

Dear Santa,
This is what I want for Christmas this year. I want a Lexus, 2 million dollars, a couple of football jerseys, and \$150.

Thanks!
Marcus Parker

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. Please bring me good grades, a Sony PlayStation, and three extra controllers, N64, Top Gear Rally, Golden Eye, Resident Evil II, NBA Hangtime.

Adrian Dubisar

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy this year. Please bring me an emerald ring, some clothes, and a high school diploma. I will leave you some milk and cookies so do not forget me.

Love,
Brandie Mann

Dear Santa,
This Christmas I would like to receive new clothes, a car, and a scholarship.

Lauren Lamb

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. Please bring me good grades, a Sony PlayStation, and three extra controllers, N64, Top Gear Rally, Golden Eye, Resident Evil II, NBA Hangtime.

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I have been good this year. Please bring me good grades, a Sony PlayStation, and three extra controllers, N64, Top Gear Rally, Golden Eye, Resident Evil II, NBA Hangtime.

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Views from...

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie has turned her bedroom into the headquarters for her new club, and there is a sign on the door that states you can only enter if you know the password. While the club is a secret organization, apparently she still likes company, because just in case you don't know the password, she has it posted on the door next to the rules. Maybe I'll try to join this weekend!

Scanning The Dial in Sports...

***The Elba Tigers traveled over to Headland last week to battle the third-ranked Rams and gave the defending area champs all they could handle for three quarters before falling 51-43. The Tiger defense was in command in the first half and helped Elba build a six-point halftime advantage; however, the Rams showed why they are undefeated in the second half and rallied to pull the hard fought win. The cancellation of the Brantley Christmas Tournament left the Tigers without a game after the Tuesday night contest in Headland, and you know Coach Johnstone put in extra hours making certain his players continue to improve as the season rolls along. The Elba Lady Elbas play this season are really missing something. C'mon out and support them.

***The Elba Lady Tigers have taken their lumps on the basketball court this season and will do nothing take even more before the season draws to a close; however, I watched the girls play Friday afternoon and there can be no doubt that the Lady Tigers have improved by leaps and bounds since the start of the season. Strough pulled out to a big lead and emptied its bench, but Elba's players played hard throughout the game and it was obvious that the girls were learning the game and develop into a team. It takes a long time to learn anything from scratch up, especially something that will be sold for years to come, and that is what Coach Leroy Carnley is doing. He is taking his time, but making certain that the girls learn the game the right way and building a foundation for teams to follow. The coach and girls deserve credit for their efforts.

***The coaching staff at the University of Alabama took on even more of a local flavor last week when Ronnie Cottrell was named an assistant head coach. Coach Cottrell made many friends back when he was the head coach at Kinston, and he is doing the same thing in his years at Florida State, where he was considered one of the nation's top recruiters. Coach Cottrell is highly thought of all across Alabama, and the nation, and will bring nothing but class to the staff at Alabama. Congratulations, Ronnie, it's good to have you back in the state.

***A lot of Auburn fans were scratching their heads last week about the report that Coach Terry Bowden was going to sign a new seven-year contract. Coach Bowden isn't the favorite for many of the Tiger supporters, and he probably should be, but for the university he might have to cheer for another school in the state. I guess Bowden deserves a raise and a contract extension after leading his team to a 45-12-1 record in five years, but the 45 wins have yet to win him a place in the hearts of many in the Auburn football family.

***If you want to see a basketball tournament next weekend you have three places to pick from. Brantley will host the SEAC Tournament, while Zion Chapel will host a three-team event, and Andalusia will host its annual Christmas Tournament. Tired of shopping? Why not attend a high school basketball game?

***Hate to admit it, but the Super Six high school football championships in Birmingham are obviously a big hit for the teams involved. All the players and coaches talk about how great it is to play in Legion Field and the fans seem to love it. I still think holding the championship games in Birmingham is not good for fans from South Alabama that might want to see a title game, but the Super Six is apparently here to stay.

Zion Chapel Rebels to host holiday tournament

The second annual Zion Chapel Holiday Basketball Tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday, December 19-20, at the Zion Chapel High School gym.

The tournament will feature action in junior varsity, girls varsity and boys varsity, and will include teams from Kinston, Georgiana and Zion Chapel.

"The tournament may have only three teams," said Zion Chapel's Coach Doug Branson, "but it gives the junior varsity, girls varsity and boys varsity teams a chance to play, and with more games each night it should be an exciting tournament."

"Anybody can win the varsity boys division," added Branson. "Kinston has been hurt by the loss of Allen Bowden, but did claim a big win on the road in Straughn, while Georgiana is very athletic and

can score a lot of points. We have played well in all our games this season and expect to play well, but any of the three teams could win the tournament and it should be fun to watch."

The tournament will open on Friday night at 5:00, with the Kinston JV meeting the Georgiana JV, to be followed at 6:15 with the game between the Kinston Lady Tigers and the Georgiana Lady Panthers. The boys varsity will tip-off at 7:30 with the clash between Kinston and Georgiana.

The Saturday schedule will find the winner of Friday's JV game meeting Zion Chapel at 5:00, with the Friday girls winner meeting Zion Chapel at 6:15, and the boys varsity winner from Friday meeting Zion Chapel at 7:30.

Admission will be \$3 each night.

Brantley Bulldogs to host SEAC cage tournament

The tournament will be held on Thursday and Friday, December 18-19, with teams from Brantley, Ochlockonee, Highland Home and McKenzie competing for the tournament titles.

Junior High and High School Basketball Schedule

Thursday, December 18
Elba Junior at Charles Henderson (7B,8G,8B) 5:00
Rehobeth at Elba (JV, VG, VB) 5:00
SEAC Tournament Semifinals, in Brantley

Friday, December 19
SEAC Tournament Finals, in Brantley
Zion Chapel Holiday Tournament
Andalusia Christmas Tournament

Saturday, December 20
Zion Chapel Holiday Tournament
Andalusia Christmas Tournament

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Sports

Rams tame Tigers 51-43

The Elba Tigers saw a six-point halftime lead evaporate under a second half Headland rally last Tuesday night as the third-ranked Rams improved the Tigers 51-43, in Headland.

The loss left the Tigers with a 4-2 record, 0-1 in area play, while Headland improved to 6-0, 2-0 in area action.

The Tigers couldn't find the basket in the early going and trailed 8-2 in the stanza. However, Elba's defense became the cornerstone in the second quarter, and the Tiger offense also came to life, as Marcus Siler scored six points and the Tigers hit on 8 of 10 free-throws to grab a 20-14 halftime advantage.

Elba turnovers allowed the highly-touted Rams to regain the lead at 31-27 in the third quarter. The Tigers missed on six of ten free-throw opportunities in the final stanza as the Rams held on to claim the hard fought win.

Marcus Siler scored 12 points and Eric Jordan added 10 to lead Elba, while Joe Fluker scored 14 for Headland.

H 8 6 17 19 - 51
E 2 18 7 16 - 43

H'land (49): Wells 8, Folds 11, Johnson 5, Jackson 7, Dean 8, Knight 10.

Elba (17): Jared 8, Daniels 3, Boyd 5, Frederick 1.

Late Lady Tiger rally falls short in 46-35 loss

The Elba Lady Tigers saw a furious second half rally fall short Friday afternoon as the Straughn Lady Tigers claimed a 46-35 win, in Elba.

The loss left Elba with a 2-8 record, while Straughn improved to 5-0 with the win.

Elba jumped on top 2-0 early on a basket by Vaughan Boyd, and led 5-4 with 5:08 left in the opening stanza. However, the Lady Tigers, Jared, only to see Straughn score the final nine points of the stanza to take a 13-5 advantage into the second quarter.

Vaughan Boyd hit two free-throws early in the second stanza to cut the lead to 13-7; however, Straughn took charge from that point on and the half was in control with a 30-9 lead.

Straughn increased its lead to 40-13 with 3:48 left in the third quarter to blow the game open, and emptied its bench. Elba wasn't ready for the blowout, however, when Boyd and Roslynne McKinney closed out the quarter with an 8-2 run to close within 42-21.

Telisha Daniels sparked a 9-0 run to open the fourth quarter as Elba chopped the deficit to 42-30 with 3:25 left in the game, and Elba responded with a 44-35 win when Daniels hit a driving lay-up.

Straughn refused to let Elba get any closer, however, and held on to claim the 46-35 win.

Vaughan Boyd scored 12 points to lead Elba, while LeeAnn McVay and Brandy Evans scored 16 and Lucas Hill scored 17 points, grabbed 8 rebounds and blocked 3 shots.

S 13 17 12 4 - 46
E 5 4 12 14 - 35

Straughn (46): Pinckard 6, Wadden 4, McVay 16, Evans 16, Newton 2, Robertson 2.

Elba (35): Jared 3, Daniels 7, Boyd 12, Lewis 5.

8th grade girls roll along

The Elba 8th grade Lady Tigers improved their record to 5-1 last week with wins over Opp and Copinville, of Enterprise.

ELBA 33
OPP 23

The Lady Tigers used a big third quarter to pull away and held on to a 34-23, led by Opp. Elba held a slim 14-13 lead at the half, but outscored Opp 17-6 in the third quarter to take command and rolled to the win.

Rachel Bludworth scored 12 points and Casey Skinner added 10 to lead Elba.

ELBA 33
OPP 23

The Lady Tigers pulled ahead in the second quarter and never looked back to defeat Copinville 25-15, in Elba.

The score was tied at 4-4 after one quarter, but the Lady Tigers pulled out to a 12-9 lead at the half and pulled away with the win.

Lagina Mack scored 10 points to lead Elba.

ELBA (25): Mack 10, Lawford 4, Robinson 5, Johnson 3, Skinner 3, C'ville 15; Franklin 4, Jones 2, Monroe 4, Johns 1, Croley 1, Slade 2.

Junior Lady Tigers fall

The Elba Junior High Lady Tigers returned to action last week and suffered a narrow 22-20 loss to Zion Chapel.

CLASS 2A - The Luverne Tigers improved to 30 points in the first half and coasted to a lopsided 51-14 win over Sand Rock, to claim the 2A state title.

CLASS 3A - The Aliceville Yellow Jackets capped off their run through the playoffs with a 21-19 upset win over defending champ Gadsden County.

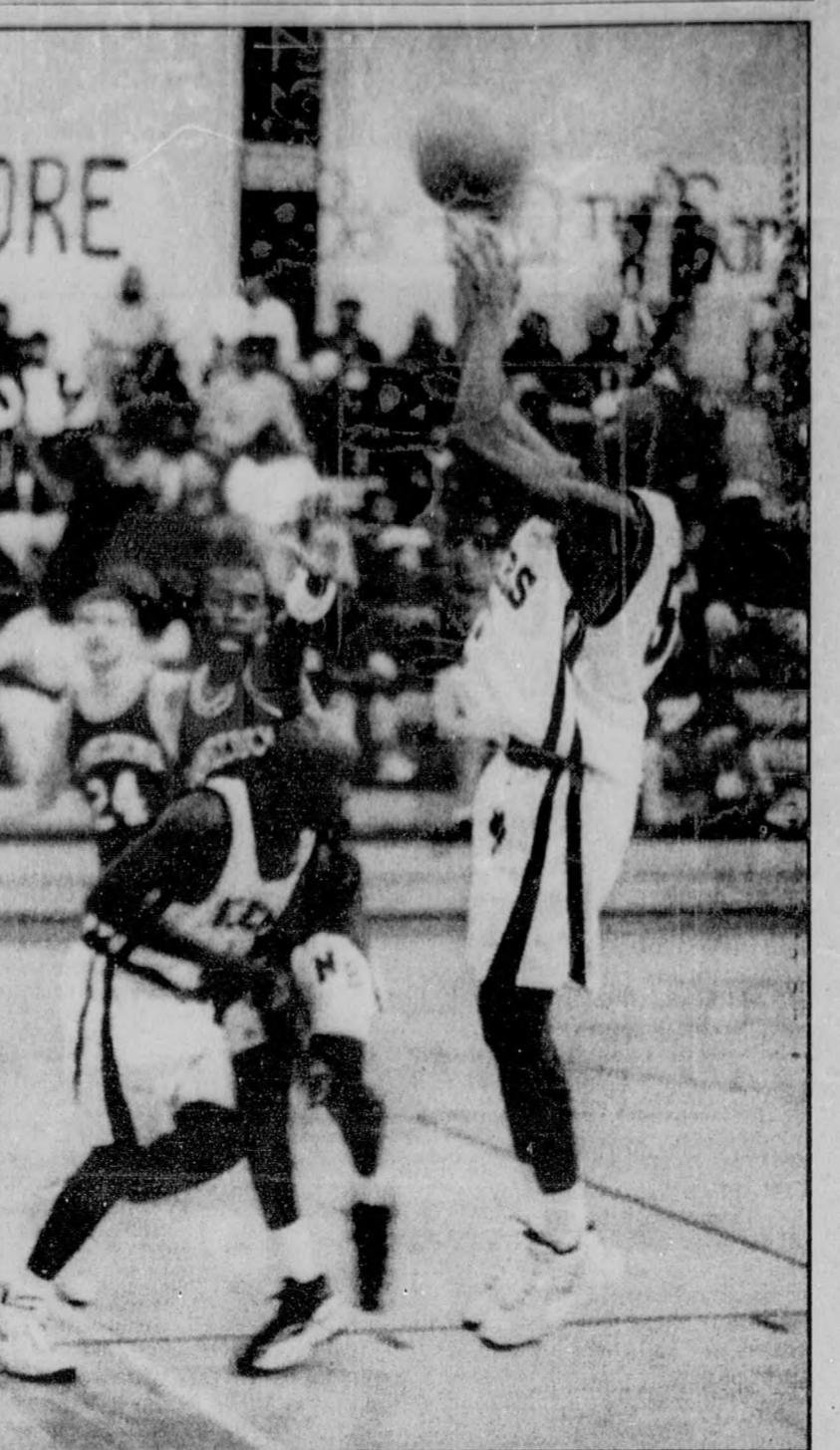
CLASS 4A - The Alexandria Valley Cubbs got 127 yards rushing and one touchdown from Mac Campbell as they ripped Greenboro 24-14 to win the 4A state title.

CLASS 5A - The Blount Leopards held Etowah to only 54 yards in total offense in a 21-0 win to claim the fourth 5A state title in the past eight years.

CLASS 6A - Michelle Daniels scored 8 points to lead Elba.

ELBA (22): Meckley 7, Maloy 2, Griffin 4, Jones 4, Julie A. 3.

ELBA (20): Bludworth 2, Daniels 8, Mack 4, Lawford 1, Davis 5 (29) and rushing yards (179).



Elba's Derrick Thigpen (in white) goes up for a shot during a recent Tiger win. Elba will close out its pre-holiday schedule Thursday night against Rehobeth, in Elba.

Roundball Round-Up

Brantley Bulldogs outscore Georgiana 85-81

The Brantley Bulldogs lit up the scoreboard last week to claim a wild 85-81 win over the Georgiana Panthers, in Georgiana. Shapale Austin scored 28 points, grabbed 6 rebounds and blocked 3 shots to lead the Bulldogs, while Demario Wiley scored 21 points and passed out 4 assists and Lucas Hill scored 17 points, grabbed 8 rebounds and blocked 3 shots.

Kinston tripped up by Houston Academy 42-25

The Kinston Bulldogs scored only 8 points in the first half and never recovered last Tuesday night as they fell to the Houston Academy Raiders 42-25, in Dothan. The Bulldogs trailed 22-8 at the half and never challenged as their record slipped to 1-6. Jeremy Osborn scored 9 points to lead Kinston, while Bret Nobles and Ronnie Sansom both added 6. Bayne Heirns scored 12 points to lead Houston Academy.

Kinston Lady Bulldogs fall to H.A. 47-40

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs were outscored 9-2 in the closing minutes as they fell to the Houston Academy Lady Raiders 47-40. The Lady Bulldogs were tied at 38-38 late in the game, only to see the Lady Raiders rally and pull out the win. April Lee scored 17 points to lead (2-5) Kinston, while Ashley Steensland scored 21 for Houston Academy.

New Brockton guns down Goshen Eagles 64-52

The New Brockton Gamecocks improved their record to 5-3 last Tuesday night with an impressive 64-52 win over the Goshen Eagles. Pate Harrison scored 21 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Kellen Cole added 14 and Josh Lewis scored 13 points and handed out 12 assists. Eric Cope scored 18 points to lead the Eagles.

Lady Gamecocks fall hard to Lady Eagles 49-22

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks fell behind early and never threatened as they fell to the Goshen Lady Eagles 49-22. Erin Barr scored 7 points to lead New Brockton, while Arleisha Lane led Goshen with 16 points.

Brantley Bulldogs storm past Straughn 92-57

The Brantley Bulldogs improved their record to 2-0 last Tuesday night by posting an easy 92-57 win over the Straughn Tigers, in Straughn. Elba improved to 16 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Lucas Hill added 14 points and 8 rebounds. Demario Wiley scored 12 points, handed out 7 assists, grabbed 6 rebounds and blocked 2 shots, while Andrea Hill scored 12 points and had 5 steals, and Earl Tillis also scored 12 points but had 4 steals.

Zion Chapel Rebels ambush Bulldogs 54-42

The Zion Chapel Rebels pulled ahead in the second quarter and coasted to a 12-11 lead at the half and pulled away with the win.

Lagina Mack scored 10 points to lead Elba.

ELBA (25): Mack 10, Lawford 4, Robinson 5, Johnson 3, Skinner 3, C'ville 15; Franklin 4, Jones 2, Monroe 4, Johns 1, Croley 1, Slade 2.

Lady Bulldogs post win over Zion Chapel 45-30

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs were in complete command throughout the game as they ripped the Zion Chapel Lady Rebels 45-30. Friday night at Zion Chapel. The Lady Bulldogs pulled out to a 15-4 halftime advantage and rolled to the big win. Brandy Chambers scored 11 points to lead the (3-5) Lady Bulldogs, while Rebecca Kidd scored 8 points for the (0-7) Lady Rebels.

ELBA (22): Meckley 7, Maloy 2, Griffin 4, Jones 4, Julie A. 3.

ELBA (20): Bludworth 2, Daniels 8, Mack 4, Lawford 1, Davis 5 (29) and rushing yards (179).

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Beginning Sign Language to be offered in Dothan

The Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind Regional Center in Dothan is offering Beginning American Sign Language (ASL I) classes beginning Jan. 6, 1998. Classes will run eight weeks each Tuesday class consisting of two hours: 6 - 8 p.m.

Teaching the course will be Wendy Darling, a community interpreter from Dothan.

Registration for the classes is \$40 and can be paid on the first night of class.

For more information call Kathy Lord at the Regional Center, 334/672-6270.

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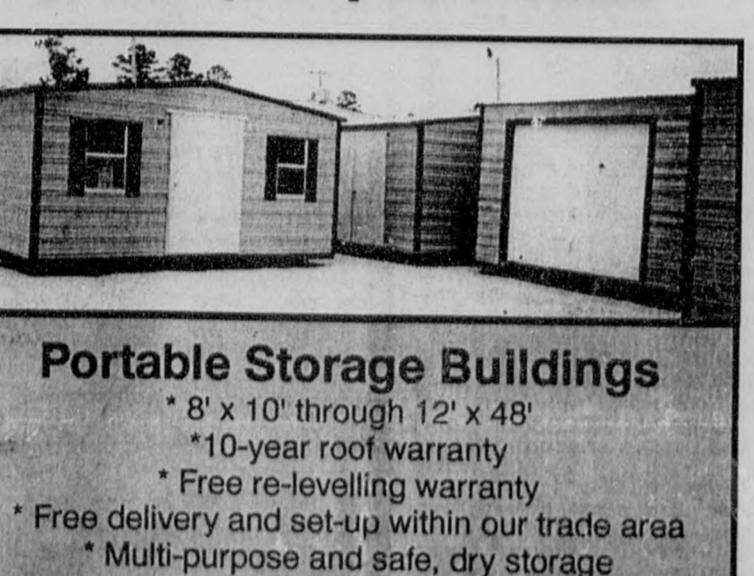
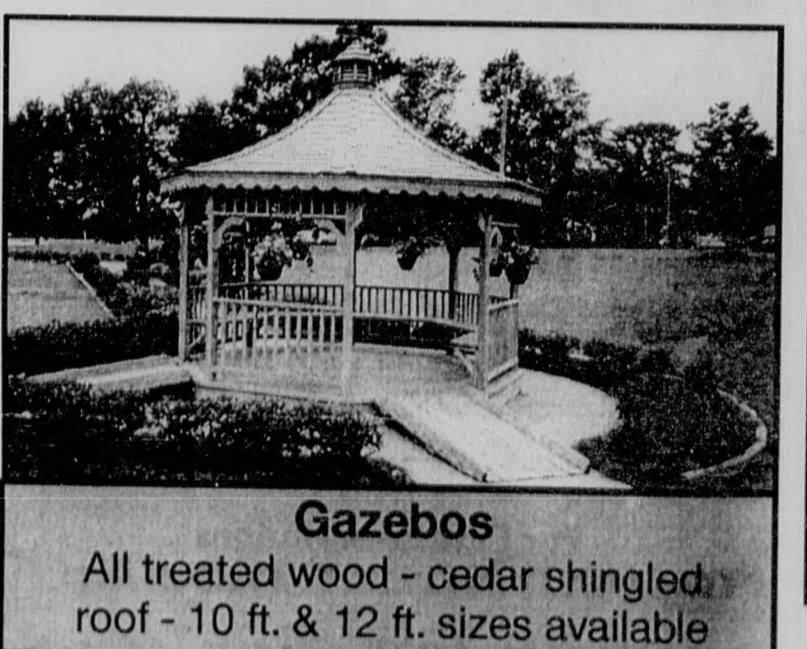
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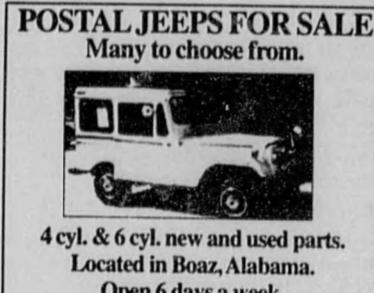
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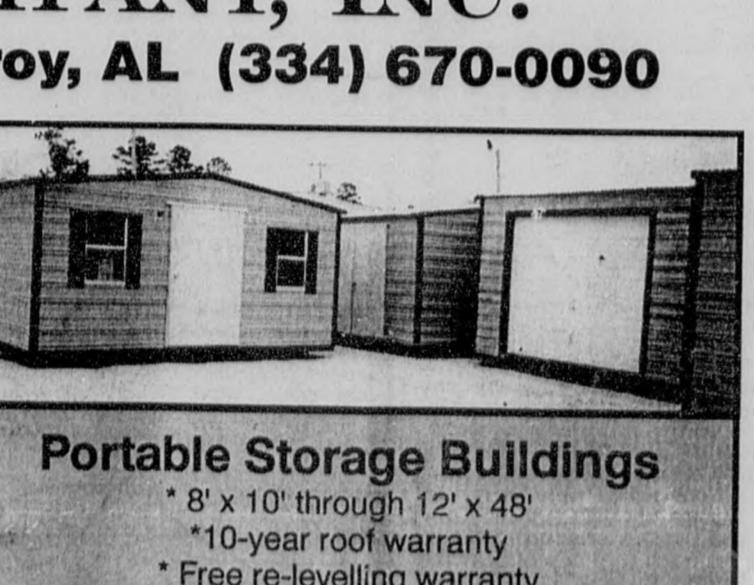
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